

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing and allowance of the subject application is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

By the present amendment, a substitute Specification (and attached marked-up copy) is submitted in the attachment to the Amendment and Reply. The substitute Specification replaces the Specification of record as of the previous Amendment and Reply dated June 12, 2003. The substitute Specification adds SEQ ID NOs to sequences present in the Specification as-filed, but not listed in the as-filed Sequence Listing. A substitute Sequence Listing providing all the sequences is also being submitted herewith.

The paragraph at page 11, lines 6-11, under the Brief Description of the Drawings has been amended to reflect the corrections made to the Figures 1A-1B, as requested by the Examiner. Support for these amendments can be found, at least, in the Specification at the Brief Description of the Drawings and in the Figures as originally filed.

Figs. 1A-1B have been replaced by newly corrected Figs. 1A-1D to correct the deficiencies noted in Form PTO-948. Support for the newly corrected Figs. 1A-1D can be found in original Fig. 1.

Thus, no prohibited matter is believed to have been introduced by these amendments to the Specification.

I. CLAIM STATUS

As of the prior Amendment and Reply dated June 12, 2003, claims 1 and 30-36 were pending in this application. However, according to the Office Action Summary, claims 1 and 31-36 are pending and allowed. It appears that the Office Action Summary inadvertently omits claim 30. Thus, Applicants respectfully request clarification regarding the pending and allowed claims.

II. SEQUENCE LISTING

The Examiner objected to the Sequence Listing and the Specification as failing to comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.821-1.825. The substitute Specification adds sequence identifiers (i.e., SEQ ID NOS) to sequences present in the Specification as filed, but which lacked such identifiers and were not listed in the original Sequence Listing. As all sequences were present in the as-filed application, no prohibited new matter has been added to the application. The substitute Specification and the substitute Sequence Listing render the present objection moot.

III. DRAWINGS

The drawings have been objected to by the Draftsperson under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.84 or 1.152. See Form PTO 948, *i.e.*, the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review.

Applicants submit, concurrently herewith as replacement sheets, corrected Figs. 1A-1D to correct the deficiencies noted on the PTO-948. In particular, the quality of the

numbers and reference characters in Figs. 1A-1D has been improved and enlarged so that they are clearer and legible. Applicants note that corrected Fig. 2 was previously submitted with the Amendment and Reply dated June 12, 2003. These amendments to the drawings are supported by the original drawings and do not introduce any prohibited new matter. Accordingly, in view of this submission, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this objection.

CONCLUSION

From the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested and such action is earnestly solicited.

In the event that there are any questions concerning this Amendment and Reply or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned so that prosecution of the application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: November 3, 2003

By: 

Mercedes K. Meyer
Registration No. 44,939

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620